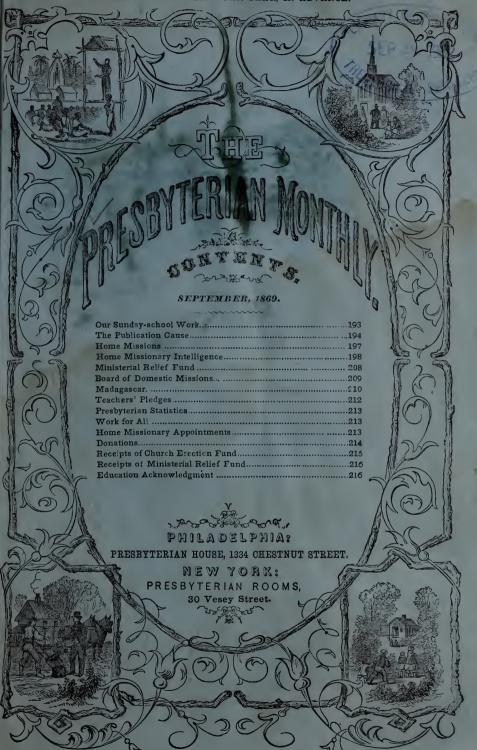
D. A. Horton

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FORMS OF BEQUEST.

- 1. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated March 31st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of dollars, for the purpose of aiding feeble congregations in connection with the General Assembly in erecting houses of worship.
- 2. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, incorporated April 21st, 185. by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvanisthe sum of dollars, to be expended under the direction and for the appropriate uses of the Publication Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.
- 3. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, incorporated April 21st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, the sum of dollars, to be expended by them for the appropriate uses of the Ministerial Relief Fund of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.
- 4. I give and bequeath to the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated April 17th, 1858, by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of dollars, to be expended for the education of pious young men for the Gospel ministry.
- 5. I give, devise, and bequeath to the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 18th, 1862, the sum of dollars, to be expended for the appropriate objects of said Incorporation.
- 6. I give and bequeath to the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 17th, 1865, the sum of dollars, to be expended for the appropriate objects of said Incorporation.

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PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY.

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SEPTEMBER, 1869.

No. 9.

Our Sunday-school Work.

Not the Sunday-school work—of that we have no need to speak. The time for trite generalities on that subject has gone by. To say how great a work, and how good a work, and how glorious a work is this Sunday-school work, true as it may be, is not now necessary or new. But of OUR WORK in this department, of what we may do and should do in it as an organized Church, there is much that should be said; that is, if the saying leads to the doing.

In our branch of the Church there has been a vast deal effected by individuals, both in their own schools and in union movements for general progress. Perhaps no other one Denomination has contributed so much of intelligence fired by zeal, in connection with this department of labor, as our own. In the list of the earnest and able, the wise and the enthusiastic Sunday-school men, are names familiar to us. But organically, and as a Denomination, we have done little; we have not met the demands of our own hearts. The desire for a recognition of this phase of church enterprise found outlet in the request to the General Assembly for a Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools; the appointment of such a Committee was an acknowledgment of the importance of the subject. But the attempt to work it as a distinct and permanent organization brought to light difficulties that led to its disbandment by the last Assembly, and the transfer of the work to the Publication Committee.

This Committee has for years been giving special attention to the preparation and selection of a Sunday-school Literature, and to the aid of our needy Sabbath-schools by grants of books; there is now referred to it by the Assembly the appointment of a General Agent for the promotion of the Sabbath-school work in all of its departments under its guidance.

In this action the General Assembly has met a widely existing demand for the organization of this great work under the supervision and with the sanction of the Church itself; and the Committee gladly meet the charge thus to complete the circle of its already interesting and important labors for the Sabbath-school. In the preparation of a suitable religious literature for the young, it has met the warm commendation of the churches; its method of selecting guaranteed libraries from the issues of all publishers has proved most welcome and satisfactory; its donations to mission and church schools have been as grateful as useful. But more remains to be done. There should be earnest and intelligent attention given to the preparation, or selection and endorsement of Text Books, and every requisite for the school. The aid rendered to schools under the care of our Pastors, Home Missionaries, and Sessions—permanent and responsible bodies, be it borne in mind—should be enlarged. A system of Sabbath-school Mission work going out from our organized church centres should be suggested, stimulated and guided. Institutes should be held in connection with our Presbyteries and Synods. Improved methods of instruction, government and spiritual husbandry should be introduced, discussed, promoted. In short, an authorized and recognized system for Sabbath-school elevation and extension should be planned and executed. No small work is this!

That the churches are ready to sustain such a work there can be no doubt. It will cost time, labor, money; but these will be freely given by those who now are giving all these, and more, to this blessed work of training our youth for holiness, happiness, and usefulness. There are many ready to co-operate in this enterprise who only wait for the call of an authorized and qualified representative of the churches.

The Committee trust that they have been led by Providence to the appointment of a brother eminently adapted to this post of so much delicacy and importance. They have chosen, as the General Agent for Sunday-school work authorized by the Assembly, the Rev. William T. Wylie, now of Newcastle, Pa. Mr. Wylie is a native of Illinois, and by birth and education a Covenanter. He united the Reformed Presbyterian and New School Presbyterian Churches of Newcastle in one, and is at present their successful and acceptable pastor. He has been a teacher, and is known to many as the author of "Worship in the Schoolroom." In all the departments of Sabbath-school effort he has been a practical worker, and brings to the office vigor, earnestness, and a deep apprehension of its importance. That he will have the co-operation and good wishes and prayers of thousands of true Sabbath-school workers we are assured.

PRESBYTERY OF ILLINOIS.

the whole responsibility of supporting The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of our works of evangelization directly Illinois forwards the action of that Presbytery on Publication, on the report of Rev. W. L. Tarbet, chairman of committee on that cause. It is worthy of consideration. Our system, discarding collecting agencies, throws buting churches, and the delinquents will gradually fall into line and do their duty. After stating the churches that had contributed to the work of the Publication Committee the report con-

Your committee will be allowed to call the attention of the Presbytery to the great necessity of the action, and earnest co-operation of pastors, of church sessions, and of churches, in order to secure for this working agency that efficient success, which its intrinsic and relative importance demands. It is obvious to every mind that recommendations of Synods and General Assemblies will accomplish but little if any good, if pastors, elders, and laymen in the respective congregations refuse to take hold of the work in all earnestness, and make it a power in the land for the evangelization of the masses. Shall one of our own appointed and chosen instrumentalities for doing good, for making wise the simple, and giving knowledge to the ignorant, be left to take care of itself? Is not the Publication cause, regarded in the light of a supplemental agency to that of the Home Missionary, the Sabbath-school teacher, and the Pastor, worthy of our attention and hearty co-operation? That this organized power accomplish the work for which it was appointed, means must be had, and money must be provided; and this can only be secured, in the judgment of your Committee, by having special contributions taken in all our churches for this cause.

The present condition of things in relation to this enterprise must be remedied, or this important interest of the Church will prove comparatively a failure, so far as the churches repre- church came safely by express. I took sented in the Presbytery are concerned. earnestly recommend that this cause community. The whole library will

receive from all our churches during the present year that consideration and pecuniary endorsement which it really demands.

Your Committee also reccommend that our contributions to this cause be made to keep pace with the demands of the times; that as a Church we may be ready to obey the command of our Great Head and King, "Go forward and occupy the land."

HOW TO GET A GOOD LIBRARY.

A New York State pastor makes inquiry of the Secretary of Publication, with regard to procuring a Sabbathschool library :-

"Do you make up still at the Committee rooms selections for Sundayschool libraries, a catalogue of the books the school may have on hand being furnished? Do you also make the twenty per cent. discount on published prices as formerly? Our last purchase, selected by Mr. Crittenden, was very satisfactory, and we should be glad to avail ourselves of a like agency in making another.

"Will you please favor me with information on these points?"

To this we reply that we do thus select libraries, and forward them with the privilege accorded the purchasers of returning any books that are unsatisfactory.

To schools that really need such aid, donations are also made by the Publication Committee.

How it Works.

The following letter, just received from Rev. G. F. Davis, of La Grange, Mo., shows how our plan is working.

The library for the New Providence the box with me in the buggy some ten It will not be questioned that books days ago, and put the books in possesissued from our own press, and bearing sion of the Sabbath-school. They were our own imprimatur, are both the received by the entire congregation with source and indication of ecclesiastical but one expression of complete satisfacand spiritual life; are a power and a tion and delight. For the amount doblessing which it is our privilege to use nated, they feel very thankful to yourand to enjoy. This being an admitted self and the Committee. This approtruth, your Committee would most priation will do good in that reading

give them spiritual food for many days. church of this place to the Publication As for myself, I am exceedingly grati- Cause. fied that both my churches are now supplied with our own literature for the last year. I wish it were ten times as Sabbath-schools and the families. A much, but it is far better than to neglect part of my pastoral work has been the this cause. We are trying to aid every introduction of our Committee's publi- Committee a little, and I am certain that cations into the congregations. That by so doing we are making more rapid work has been serviceable to these advancement as a church toward selfchurches. I have been looking over support, as it is teaching our people to some of the volumes. The Tennessean in Persia is a very entertaining and edifying book; it must do much in cre- as much toward the support of a ating a special interest in foreign mis- minister as they did three years ago, . sions. The reading of New York Bible Woman, Needle Woman, and Shoe Binders, suggests to the mind many ways of doing good. Life Lessons by Gillett and the Sacraments by Crittenden may be reckoned as standard works. The little folks are wonderfully pleased with "True Story Library," "Do Good Library," and their other books.

thankful to you, and that the people, old tion ourselves. and young, are more than satisfied in the advent of their new library. Many in the perusal of these volumes will I hope be led into a "Closer Walk," many be led "Upward from Sin through Grace to glory." Now we need the influence of the gracious and Divine Spirit to make all this truth the means of grace to our hearts. O! that the people would pray for our books, that the reading may convert the impenitent and comfort the people of God. From house to house and from heart to heart these volumes preach the precious gospel. Why not then pray for these written messages of Truth?

While you are gathering funds for this work, do you think of this need and appropriateness of prayer and faith for the Publication Cause?

WEAK CHURCHES TAKE NOTICE.

Thus writes to the Secretary of Publication a Minnesota Home Missionary: Enclosed you will find money order for eight dollars and eighty cents, the faith, and to overcome the world. They

It is a slight advance on our effort be liberal in that direction.

They are giving more than six times when only one or two of our benevolent causes were presented to them in the course of the year. May the Lord bless the good cause of Publication, and increa e its usefulness a hundredfold.

Don't forget to send me any reports or other matter that will keep me posted about your work. We Home Missionaries need to inform the people on these You understand from this that I am subjects, and to this end need informa-

UPWARD.

Of this new book (Price \$1.00) our neighbor, The Presbyterian (O.S.) says:

Mr. Hotchkin's book is an excellent one. Christian experience is a topic of which the Church can never weary, unless she grows weary of the truth by which she is to live. But Christian experience, in our age so full of manifold activities, needs to be specially studied, and should be described anew in terms fitted to attract the men of our busy Mr. Hotchkin, therefore, has done a good and needful work, and done it well. His book is especially fragrant with the name of Jesus, and very full in its recognition of the Holy Ghost as the true author of all genuine Christian experience. In simple, unambitious language, it presents sound truth which no passage of time can antiquate. We commend his book to all who are striving to live the life of contribution of the First Presbyterian will find counsel and refreshment in it.

Home Missions.

CURSION.

It has been proposed by several ministers at the West, of both branches of the Church, to send a strong delegation of Home Missionary operations.

organized under the auspices of our success. Home Missionary Committee and the Board of Domestic Missions of "the dertaking shows the magnitude of Home other branch," as an emblem of Re- Missionary operations just now opening union soon to come, and as preparatory before us. The building of one railway to the work which will open before us to the Pacific has kindled anew the when Re-union takes place. The plan enthusiasm for the completion of the contemplated a delegation large enough two others already projected and much to impress the Pacific Slope, but especitalked of, namely, (1.) The North Paally large enough to return and lay cific Railway—having its eastern terbefore our churches at the East, in all minus, for freight, probably at Duluth, our great cities, the vastness of the field, at the extreme western end of Lake and the pressing necessity for immedi- Superior, but having connections with ate enlargement of our work to keep St. Paul, Chicago, and all the great pace with the tides of population sweep- thoroughfares to the Atlantic seaboard ing over our new states and territories -and its western terminus on the perhaps northward Territory to the Dalles on the Columbia on the Pacific in Southern California. River, and comprehend the whole south to Puget Sound on the north.

A GRAND HOME MISSIONARY EX- points; to send ministers and laymen to preach and speak in destitute places of prospective importance; to ascertain where missionaries should be sent, and where church edifices should be built, representative men, both clergymen and would require more time than at first laymen, over the Pacific road this sum-thought would be supposed. After Remer, to see the great field of our future union takes place, that is, next year, the project may be revived, and, beginning It was thought best to have the party early in the season, prosecuted with

The very conception of such an unwith unparalleled and resistless power. Pacific at Puget's Sound, or at the Such a trip would also involve diver- mouth of the Columbia River. (2.) Ansions in force, from the main line into other road, running westward from St. Colorado, probably to Salt Lake City Louis, reaches out nearly to the western and farther south in Utah, turning borders of Kansas. It may be connorthward so as to include the promitinued to Denver. But whether it does nent mining towns in Nevada, White or not, it is likely to be extended south-Pine, Austin, and Virginia City, and westward, pessing through New Mexico through Idaho and Arizona, and making a termination

These roads, with their lateral Pacific coast from San Diego on the branches, will reach out into all the fertile valleys of our wide domain, and This proposal came before our Com- along the mountain sides, which abound mittee too late to be carried into effect in precious metals, and make their this year. Nearly all the clergymen products available to the commerce of and laymen that would be needed in the world. The former will open the such an excursion had laid their plans great grain growing districts of Northfor the season, many had already fled ern Minnesota, Dacotah, and the broad to their summer retreats. To rally and valley of the Saskatchewan in British organize the requisite force; to secure America, and make the mining towns the right men would necessarily involve of Montana accessible from St. Paul, by some weeks' labor, and to do justice to rail, in three days, instead of three the expedition; to visit all the important months by water, as now, from St. in a milder climate almost unexplored, the case too soon. It is well, then, for and will be the outlet for the mining us to begin and plan for a religious products of Northern Mexico, Southern survey of this broad field. We need to Colorado and Arizona. The Scandina- comprehend the magnitude of the work vians, who are given to agricultural pursuits, are pouring in along the projected line of the northern road, and the Swedes, who are natural miners, along that of the southern. With the progress of these roads new States will spring into being, and branch roads will weave themselves into each other, as in the present Western States. Herds of cattle and flocks of sheep will feed on the grassy slopes of the Rocky Mountains and the wide plains, of which, till of late, the buffalo and the Indian held undisturbed possession; and mining towns, that seemed almost dead because so far from market and supplies, will be instinct with new life.

Eager, restless, godless multitudes, from all our older States, from every nation of Europe; from China, India and Japan will be there. What but the gospel can reduce this choatic mass to order? The Gospel, which is the power of God, the power of man having been often tried and found too weak, the gospel only can reduce these heterogeneous and hostile elements to sober, industrious and prosperous communities. The Church can have no other expectation. As we have been doing many years past so we must continue to do, send missionaries into the new settlements, organize Sabbathschools and churches, build church edifices, and though the religious element may be very small at first, yet, at length, as we have already seen in many places at the West, it will leaven the whole lump: and establish Christian institutions, morality and good order. We must inculcate upon our people and all foreigners, true ideas of the religion of Christ, and unite and Americanize and save them and their children, and thus make Christian States and a Christian nation. This is the sweeping down to the South. great work which Providence has com- should follow them with our ministry.

The latter will open regions derstand its magnitude and our duty in that we may be prepared to do it. "The Lord said unto Moses, ' Send thou men that they may search the land which I give unto the children of Israel."

Such a delegation would find "a goodly land," "flowing with milk and honey," and could bring back "clusters of grapes" and "pomegranates and figs" but they would encounter "giant" wickednesses and wrongs, the "sons of Anak" in vice and error, and if they be cowardly men they will bring back an "evil report of the land" and spread dismay throughout all the congregations of Israel. But if they are men of faith, as Caleb was, and shall bring back a report saying, "Let us go up at once and possess it," new life and joy in the Home Missionary work will be imparted to all our churches, and perhaps a new impulse given to the work of Home Evangelization which will not be lost till all the land is won for Christ. The work promises to tax all the energies of the united Church. Let us be ready to work intelligently that we may work successfully.

CALIFORNIA.

Rev. W. W. Brier, Presbyterial missionary, Alvarado.

"A Great Work to the Eye of Faith."

I have two places which promise now soon to bring forth fruit. Long have they been watched. The seed has sprouted and grown slowly; now the promise of harvest is good; yet some sudden reverse may set back again the growth. In all the region occupied by the Presbytery of San Jose, a permanent agricultural population are quietly purchasing homes for their family residences. A vast wave of population is mitted to our hands. We connot un- But it is not an easy task; for, first, we

have no ministers to go, and, secondly, need a financier. Then we could build it requires time for these communities a parsonage this coming year. to become self-supporting. All the denominations have members in each, and no one sufficient to sustain a minister. The only mode to reach our own people is to send a good man into a region, and let him operate on a circuit of fifty to one hundred miles. It is a small work to one who cannot see the multitudes who are to inhabit these valleys after we are gone to the other side. But it is a great work to the eye of faith. The Christian work here is much of that kind. If we should only do what would pay at once, then much would be left for the future. I cannot urge immediate action, although delay may be fatal. If we had two or three men to locate south it would be well.

Rev. J. M. Newell, Placerville. Installed Pastor.

The church is in a more prosperous condition than for some time back. We hope to pay off the remainder of the debt, eight hundred dollars, by the end of another year. I was installed pastor of the church by the Presbytery of Nevada on the 11th of this month. I have been most warmly received by the people, and love the work very much.

Rev. S. P. Webber, Santa Clara. Discouraged by Removals--Hopeful Notwithstanding.

said to have been a prosperous year outwardly with this church. We have dismissed as many as we have received. but in others discouraging. We have The incoming population is generally nohouses of worship, and at Logan Creek Methodist. The Episcopal Church has not even a school house in which to made a beginning within the year. have our service. I do not know that Some of our ablest families have re- we can build at Logan, if even the moved from the place; others are about harvest comes in good, without some to go South to new lands. In outward help outside the Church Erection Commatters-means and numbers-we only mittee. Yet we cannot abandon the hold our former position; perhaps shall field. Forty families within a circuit not raise as much money. Yet the of three miles without any other preachspiritual tone of our church is probably ing. The most of them are beginning as good and healthful as formerly. life, and are needy. But we will build Real estate advances, and there are in- in Decatur (one of my stations), if the dications of increased population at no harvest comes in. We have just bought distant day. We labor in hope. We a lot in the very centre of town to place

NEVADA.

Rev. John Frazer, Carson City. An Important but Difficult Field.

This is a hard but important field. Population fluctuating. Great excitement, and emigration to White Pine. The church has lost half of its membership by emigration, nearly half remaining non-resident. But for your kind aid this field would have to be abandoned, as living is expensive. The former pastor had other sources of income besides his salary. The congregation compares favorably with the other churches in the place, though not what we should like it to be, and the Lord has graciously not left us without some tokens of good. There is much discouraging to a minister here, but your sympathy cheers us. We hope there will be renewed prosperity, as the State Capitol is to be erected soon, and a railroad is in process of construction, connecting it with Virginia City. As the Presbyterian church was the first in the place, and established without missionary aid, the denomination should not hastily abandon the field.

NEBRASKA.

Rev. John M. Peebles, Montana. Upon the whole this can hardly be Church Buildings Essential -- Distressed by their Want.

In some respects the work is hopeful,

the building on. well for us to occupy, if we were able. occupied by the Methodists entirely. But we feel that with us church buildings are essential; we are distressed by their want, and work to great disadvantage.

MINNESOTA.

One of our missionaries tells us of some of the trials of a new country:

Laboring amid Great Discouragements.

The within report is submitted with the painful consciousness that it does not indicate much progress. have been very respectable additions to tional church and have united with us. support. The aged grandfather has since died. sence of a local Methodist minister, now residing on a homestead claim at manded liberal aid in his behalf. Un- two. avoidably and constantly over taxed has been inefficient, tending rather to people. Here are three families whose connection had been with Old School Churches. Two considerations alienate man who came with assurance of sym- small, slow, lifeless place. pathy for us and with promise of useful-

There are many been guilty of immoralities that should points about here where it would be exclude him from any church; desecrating the Sabbath by travelling, labor-The valley below us is well settled, and ing, hunting, and by frequenting a drinking billiard saloon during the week. He has never offered his letter, and knowing he could not be received he has exerted his influence to alienate another family, from which, the wife being a member of the Presbyterian Church (O. S.), and the husband a man of wealth, professing interest in Sabbath-schools and religious interest we had hoped much.

> Rev. J. L. Howell, Chatfield. The prospects of Chatfield contingent upon a Railroad.

The year here at Chatfield has not our settlements, and of these a favor- been one of growth in numbers, though, ble representation of professing Chris- I think, it has in piety. We report tians, but of these there has been but fewer members than last year, owing to one family at Redwood Falls and vi- the fact that during the year we have cinity, and but one at Beaver Falls sent letters to many non-resident memsettlement, who have direct sympathy bers hitherto reported. Our place is with our Church. Of the family re- not flourishing. We have a number of siding here but one, the wife and mother, vacant houses. The emigration has are members of the church. This large exceeded the immigration, though our family are in constant attendance at church has not suffered as much as meetings. At Beaver six of the one others. The Episcopal minister is to family were members of the Congrega- leave this week. Reason, inadequate

The Baptist church, a few years Two, a young husband and wife from a since the largest in the place, has settlement sixteen miles below, have dwindled to a handful, so that they united with us at Redwood. The pre-neither support a minister nor keep a Sabbath-school.

The Methodists are about our equal Beaver, has tended to divert pecuniary in numbers, but financially weak. Their aid from us, as poverty and long con-ministers do not receive a living support, tinued sickness in his family have de- yet they try to survive their year or

We have some hope of a railroad. with labor on his farm, his ministry But if the Southern Union Railroad should run west below us, much of our division than the spiritual good of the trade would be cut off. Our fate in that respect will probably be decided this summer. If we get a road the place will flourish, for we have many them from us. One, a husband, a young natural advantages; if not, it will be a

The system of taking collections, ness in our Sabbath-school and church, which I found had been practiced has almost from his first residence here under my predecessors, and to which the people seemed affectionately at-ganized. Besides, if I take Osakes as a tached, is a plate collection every month. third preaching station, which I con-The sum gathered is divided at the end template doing, I could superintend the of the year. I have suggested what I school only a part of the time, and think a better way; and hope to prevail there is no one else upon whom I could upon them to give trial to some other depend. plan.

Rev. C. H. Elmer, Sauk Centre. The Past Gloomy, the Present and Future Cheering.

I entered upon active duty in this field about January 1st, 1869. Between that time and the September preceding, the pulpit of the Sauk Centre church had been vacant, and many members of the congregation (non-professors) have become indentified with the congregation of the Congregational church. Our society has also been weakened by removals to other places. Among these removals are numbered the only two elders. A general indifference and want of confidence in this Presbyterian enterprise had settled upon the community. Yet amid these discouragements there is much now that is cheering. The future looks promising. A few faithful disciples are here, and we trust that God will yet make this church the means of accomplishing much good. For a time, however, progress here must be very gradual. Progress is perceptible. At our last Sabbath we had a communion service, when we received two into the church by letters; also ordained two elders over the Silver Creek church, whose offices we enjoyed in celebrating the Supper.

The kindest feeling now exists between the various denominations in the village. The Congregational church participated with us in celebrating the Lord's Supper.

The Silver Creek church is in a prosperous condition, and making efforts to build a church, though I fear they will not succeed this season. The people of that settlement are very poor. I have but one Sunday-school to report, and that at Silver Creek. Have not organized one at the Centre, because the Methodists, who occupy our building a part of the time, have one already or- time my services have been acceptable,

Rev. J. W. Hancock, Lake City. Two Buildings in Prospect.

A sum has been raised at both Florence and Goodhue by subscription towards building houses of worship, and there is a very cheering prospect of this thing after another harvest.

I have one new preaching station in the town of Belvidere, where a Sabbathschool is to be organized at my next visit.

Rev. Lewis C. Thompson, Belle Plaine. Signs of Progress.

Since coming here we have established a weekly teacher's meeting, in which we study the lesson and pray for the conversion of our scholars. have organized a Bible-class. The attendance on the meeting is much larger and more regular than formerly. When I first came here, there were only two besides myself who took a part in the prayer-meeting; now there are ten or more males who take a part. We have Sunday-school concerts and quarterly meetings. Also a weekly Sunday-school prayer-meeting in which the children lead. They are doing a good work. Our Sunday-school is prospering. The children are interested in purchasing a Seamen's Library and in building the pulpit in our new church (soon to be erected). Many of them earn their money for these objects, and I think some of the boys will make a Sundayschool garden and devote the proceeds to this fund, which now amounts to about thirteen dollars. I have three services on Sunday, besides teaching a Bible-class.

WISCONSIN.

Rev. W. R. Higgins, Superior.

A very Interesting Report. I have been here three years and a half the first of March. During that extending. As you are aware, it is a small place, but from the situation exceedingly important. Few places in our country have a vaster future before them than this little spot. The latest railroad news gives a significance to that statement not so readily felt in the past times of hope deferred. We hear that Jay Cooke & Co., have sold \$4,500,-000 of bonds of the "Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad." It is also reported that he has pledged the finishing of the road to the lake by the first of January, 1870. (He was up here last summer and attended my church one Sabbath morning.)

Now take notice, Mr. Secretary, the bonds are sold, and three steps more, (easy ones too) will agreeably turn the tables on our Home Mission Committee, viz: building the railroad is building a great business point here. Building a great business point gives our beloved branch of Christ's visible church a strong foothold here, and a great opportunity for good. I am the only Presbyterian or Calvinistic minister within one hundred miles, and am on hand to welcome those who prefer us, or could by honorable and Christian influence be added to our church or congregation. With a self-supporting and speedily a strong church, I hope to repay the Home Mission Committee tenfold for their expenditures on this point. If I withdrew to-day it would be the Committee's duty to supply my place, though it took one thousand dollars. Our Methodist brethren and the Episconalian branch of the Church are wide awake. They keep pastors here though at high cost and much difficulty. The true and Calvinistic gospel had the ground in advance, and your missionary "has the inside track." But some may say, suppose the railroad goes to Duluth, Minnesota, seven miles away and across the bay. Never mind. Your missionary organized a Sunday-school there in the summer of 1867, and put a Presbyterian in as superintendent. And I now preach

my congregations increasing, and pros- in Duluth every Sabbath (with few expects of accomplishing spiritual good ceptions of extreme bad weather or sickness). There are nearly a dozen Presbyterians at Duluth. Preaching in both places every Sabbath (here twice and there once). I wait the guiding hand of Providence and the coming of the railroad He is sending. My quarterly reports speak of the past year. It is better than former years. Better life in Christians. Deeper results. My last and best convert joins the church next Sabbath. We hope for good things even in our feebleness, and greater things than these in a year or two.

> Rev. J. Patch, Stevens Point. The Reforming Power of the Gospel Needed.

The prospect of building up our church is very dark in this and Marathon county. I am the only Presbyterian minister now laboring in the two counties. The lumber business is king here and the business has no sympathy with the religion of Jesus. Sabbath labor or recreation, swearing, drinking, gambling, and fighting seem wedded to the occupation, and yet the Presbyterian Church is the best means of reform; but its progress must be slow and victory far off unless the Lord should do a marvelous work.

Our church, congregation, and Sabbath-school seem more hopeful and healthy than a year ago, though we are losing by death and removal of several of our members; while our membership is twenty-eight there is but a small force in the city. One member lives about sixty miles off, on the Upper Wisconsin, another twenty miles, and another twenty-five. This being a centre of trade they are occasionally with us. One member sustains a Sabbath-school near where he lives. Several of the Sabbath-school scholars in this city are now serious and we hope some are converted.

IOWA.

Rev. John Fisher, Centreville. Evils of Stated Supply System in the West.

I have one remark to make-I have

frequently made the same remark in School Presbyterian churches, and some our Presbytery meetings. It is this. United Presbyterian Churches. The stated supply system, which seems to have taken the place of the pastoral relation, is, in my opinion, a great blunder in our Presbyterian churches in the West. It is not presbyterial; it is not the "more excellent way." Often too, it is the cause of strife and discord in the churches. The vote is taken every year. And the great question of the day then is, shall we continue our minister. Perhaps in the faithful discharge of duty in the past year, he has rebuked some growing evil practiced by some member or members of the congregation-Sabbath breaking or the like. The rebuke perhaps was only indirectly given and in the mildest way. It matters not, it has offended, and now the offended party with what friends they can muster are ready on the day of voting, to take revenge. The vote is not unanimous, the minister is discouraged, still he is persuaded to remain another year and perhaps another, but the wedge is introduced, the church is divided, the minister at length leaves and seeks another field. I know more than one instance of this kind occurring to the great injury to the church. Now were the pastoral relation formed, Presbytery, through the session of the church, or vice versa, would take cognizance of the matter and prevent all strife. Besides, if a minister is suitable to labor in any church or Sunday-school, he is equally fitted for the pastoral relation. I am persuaded the pastoral relation is much the best, and we should fall back into it. If a man is not fit to be a pastor, he is not for stated supply. speak in reference to the Western field.

Distribute the Publication Committee's Tract, "Pastor or Stated Supply."]

Rev. A. I. Wood, Scott.

The Kind of Labor Needed for the West. The Olivet Presbyterian Church is the only New School church in Mahaska

Neither is there any church of our denomination in the adjoining efficient way of introducing the gospel counties of Keokuk, Wappello, Monroe, in such communities. To create and

There are churches, however, of several other denominations. counties are located in one of the best portions of Iowa. The whole region is well settled, and improvements of all kinds are rapidly being made. But with all the religious advantages offered by these various denominations, there is in many important neighborhoods great religious destitution. Irreligion greatly abounds; and yet, if the gospel is faithfully preached by the zealous missionaries, many will attend. In such a region as this, our method of preaching the gospel and of operation fails, to a great extent, of reaching the people, and of establishing churches of our denomination. And I apprehend that the same thing may be truly said, in reference to our missionary operations, in large portions of the great West beyond the Mississippi. The pressing want is, (and in my opinion the only successful method of establishing New School Presbyterian Churches,) self-denying, holy, earnest, and faithful missionaries to travel on circuits and preach statedly in the largest and most encouraging settlements. In this way we might expect to reach thousands more than we now do, and thus prepare the way for the organization of permanent and useful churches. But as the state of society now is, such missionaries would have to be mostly supported by Home Missionary aid. Not because there is not prosperity and wealth enough to do much in support of the gospel. but because it is in the hands of unconverted, worldly men, who know not the value of the gospel, and who have never formed the habit of giving. And also because the moral and religious are divided in supporting preaching of several religious denominations. But let it cost what it will of missionary effort and missionary aid, this is the wisest, the most economical, and most and Marion. But there are some Old promote a great interest in common

well qualified faithful teachers. So, and six children in our Sunday-school well qualified and earnest missionaries last Sunday. We have purchased an are indispensable to the introduction of the gospel, to the establishment of churches, and to promote the spirit of benevolence among the people. The West wants pioneer men, having the spirit, the earnestness, and the faithfulness of a Brainerd; let it have them and the cause of Christ will prosper.

Rev. D. B. Gordon, Clarence. A Promising Field of Labor.

Clarence is a very promising field; a village of about twelve hundred population. I understand that the church there has never had a pastor, and that it was built up by occasional preaching. I think that by the end of six months the church ought to be about independent of aid from your treasury. At present all things are out of joint. Money therefore is hard to be raised. They have only pledged me two hundred and fifty dollars for six months, as the result of a canvass of the congregation. I hope your treasury will yield as much for said first period.

I deem the field as encouraging as any of like size, &c. The people are an excellent class, and there is a great deal of business transacted with the surrounding country of the most fruitful and healthy kind. In short, I am delighted with the prospect, and feel satisfied of there soon being a strong and independent church, with everything else correspondingly encouraging. But I also feel persuaded that it would be death to our prospect of success to urge them, at present, to raise more money than what they have already named.

I think that the great difficulty will be during the first six months. By the end of that time I hope to have them trained both to work and liberality.

MISSOURI.

Rev. J. Addison Whitaker, Jefferson City.

school education, we must introduce ous than now. We had one hundred addition of one hundred and seven volumes to our Sunday-school library. Our morning and evening congregations and prayer-meetings are larger than they ever have been when the legislature was not in session.

ILLINOIS.

Rev. C. F. Halsey, Tamaroa. Church Building Dedicated.

My labors at Tamaroa closed with expiration of my commission. church was completed soon after and dedicated.

We have numerous points where preaching is greatly needed, and villages where churches may be gathered soon by God's blessing on faithful labors of a minister.

This work is one of great self-denial and requires "patient continuance in well doing," but "eternal life" is the reward.

This part of the State is receiving now a large number of new comers engaging in fruit raising of every kind, and new life is being rapidly infused into our growing villages. Several new railroads projected, some of which will doubtless be completed.

Rev. A. E. Everest, Ridgeville, Thornton Station.

German Children in the English Sunday-schools.

This church is located within twenty miles of Chicago, among a population mostly Germans. The only preaching here, except in our church, is in the German language in a Lutheran church. Nearly all their children attend our Sunday-school, making our Sabbathschool larger sometimes than our congregation. Much is to be hoped from these children, who seem to be tractable, and more desirous to learn English than German. There is no church of our denomination within ten miles. This point is one of much future interest, it being a rich, fertile country, Our church was never more prosper- and destined to be thickly settled.

Chemung.

A Dying Man asks his Unconverted Sister to Pray for Him.

We have seen several conversions here since I last wrote to you. At the commencement of the year a series of special services were held by us, but I regret that I was not able to give them that undivided attention which is desirable, in consequence of the sore sickness from which two members of my family were suffering.

One night a person under deep conviction of sin arose and requested the prayers of the pious. A night or two afterwards another did the same. They were both hopefully converted. Meantime there was a solemn feeling in the minds of many persons in the village. A man, who had lost his health in the late war, and who was getting much worse, and not expected to recover, became alarmed in the prospect of death. Conviction seized upon him like an armed man; the more he tried to shake it off the more it grew upon him, until, in an agony of mind, he called upon an unconverted sister to pray for him. The request sent conviction home to her mind. "I have need," said she to him, "to pray for myself;" and she did so. Falling down upon her knees, she cried for mercy for both herself and her brother, and found the blessing. They are both at the present time giving satisfactory evidence of the reality of their conversion. The brother is nearing the eternal world. Last Sabbath I visited him, and found him sinking fast into the arms of death, but with a good hope, through grace, of entering into the Saints' everlasting rest.

church. others are removing elsewhere very four are hopefully converted. soon, and the other two strongly sym-

Rev. E. W. Garner, Lawrence and to our church they are mainly lost, though they are a gain to the Church at

Rev. A. L. Brooks, Decatur.

A Gain in Membership of Seventy-five per cent. in Fifteen Months.

Last Sabbath, April 4th, we received thirteen, seven on profession, six on letter. The new converts are five of them heads of families, and two young men twenty-three and twenty-four years of age. They are the ingathering of my nightly preaching through January and February. The number will seem small to you. But when you remember that mine was the only church in the city that observed the Week of Prayer, that we were in a hall in the third story with a congregation of only a hundred, and no outside sympathy or notice whatever, it is equal to much larger accessions in larger churches, where our denomination is on a footing with the rest. Our increase is now seventy-five per cent. since our organization, fifteen months since. We shall build this season, though we may not begin before the middle of May. I enclose you a lithograph of the style of building we shall probably build-of brick. It will cost with lot about eleven thousand dollars. Business is very dull at present. But our town is to be put in direct railroad communication with St. Louis this season, and by the next season with Chicago. So that our population must double within the next ten years or less. The point is one of the best in the State for us, and must be sustained at all cost.

Rev. C. J. Pitkin, Cerro Gordo.

Conversions.

On the last day of March we com-Five others also have professed to menced a series of meetings preparatory experience the great change. Unfortu- to our communion, which occurred on nately for us, however, only two out of the first Sabbath in April. The inthis number have united with our terest was such that we continued them Two of them have already until yesterday (April 18th). left the place, one is near to death, two have been forty inquirers, and twenty-

The work has been mostly confined pathize with other churches. So that to our Sabbath-school. A few adults without an exception, were members of our Sabbath-school.

I have had the assistance of Rev. G. C. Clarke during the most of the meeting, and before we closed the Methodists, at our invitation, came in, and a very cordial state of feeling now exists between the two Churches.

FREEDMEN'S DEPARTMENT. From a Teacher in North Carolina.

The results of my last month's work were very gratifying and satisfactory. Towards the close of the term the scholars redoubled their efforts and seemed determined to make the most of the remaining days. There was a spirit of emulation among them, an enthusiasm, that was very cheering, and that made my work much easier than schoolteaching usually is in the long June days in a hot climate. This was particularly noticeable in the reading classes and in writing.

Each of the two reading classes tried hard to be first. The boys would come to me at recess and say, "Miss Parker, which class beat to-day?" After hearing the verdict, the victors would go off with, "I knowed we'd beat 'em," while the discomfited ones would console themselves by saying, "Well, we will take you all down to-morrow." This rivalry was a healthy stimulus and was always carried on in a pleasant, kindly spirit.

They compared their writing on slates. One name, or sentence, being written by several pupils and the slates passed to the teacher for examination and correction. In this way, criticism, which is sometimes hard for a child to bear, was always welcome. They wanted to see every fault in the formation of the letters so they might get them just right the next time. These little every day incidents, though they serve to show the temper and disposition of a school, seem small things to write about; yet they help to form the whole of a teacher's school-life.

It is amusing to witness the feeling

have been brought in, and yet they all, teachers. It is a real sense of ownership. They feel that the teachers belong to them, and while they regard them with affection and respect, have a watchful care for them.

> A little bare-footed creature very gravely said to me, one day when I was at home sick, "We want yer bright face at school. If yer can't walk down, Hannah and me will tote yer.' The child knew that I ought to be in school, and I felt reproved for allowing the flesh to triumph over the spirit. I must not omit speaking of the pleasure we derived from Mrs. Bradbury's generous gift of two hundred singing books. During the winter we had used the Sabbath Bell, there being, perhaps, fifteen or twenty books for the whole school, and when her package of books were opened it was literally a "Golden Shower." The children always enjoyed singing, and I never used the books without a feeling of gratitude to Mrs. Bradbury, and a wish that she might see and realize how much she had done for us.

The work outside the school room is full of variety. On one afternoon letters must be written for those who cannot write for themselves, letters must be directed for others. Another day, pupils must be visited in their homes, a missing scholar must be hunted up, a sick child must be visited and cared for. Some of these pupils live within a few rods of the school-house. Others live several miles away, and a great amount of patience and strength is needed to keep one in good spirits while walking a long tiresome distance across fields and over rocks and gullies, particularly in warm weather. The latter part of June was quite warm and oppressive. children, however, worked on without flagging.

DES MOINES PRESBYTERY.

From Rev. H. H. Kellogg.

Organization of Churches.

DES MOINES, IOWA, July 21st, 1869.

Since last winter three new churches which these children have for their have been organized under the direction of this Presbytery, viz: at De Soto twenty-two miles, Guthrie forty-seven miles, and Atlantic eighty-two miles west of this city on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad. last of these I have organized within the last three months. In each of these places we have very small churches, but good congregations when we can get access to places in which the people can be assembled. In each of these places we need and must soon have houses of worship in order to promote the work with any efficiency or success. have Union Sabbath-schools in which the Christian people of the different churches very cordially co-operate. We need ministers, church edifices, and psalmody for the intelligent and successful promotion of our work. To all of these we must be aided by our more favored brethren. And we are happy to acknowledge the generous response which the churches at the East are making to the call of our Missionary, Church Erection, and Publication Committees.

We do not expect to locate a minister in each of these places, but what we desire is, that one minister should occupy two prominent places constantly, and other points of less importance occasionally. I have now upon my hands work at four places extending over an extent of eighty-two miles from extreme east to west. Two of these places are fully enough for any one man, and I desire at once to relinquish the work at two of these places to another, where it is so far advanced that it may be immediately promoted to the erection of houses of worship, and the securing of all these aids which are necessary to the building up, with the blessedness of God, of Christian congregations.

P. S.—This Presbytery gave a unanimous response in the affirmative to the proposition sent down by the General Assembly on the subject of re-union.

THE CHILDREN NEGLECTED.

The following from the Rev. J. W. Harris, to the *Home Missionary* is worthy of note.

The past year has more than ever convinced me of the neglect and failure of our Congregational people, in the religious training of children. Here, at the West, it is getting to be the exception, rather than the general rule, that children, even of Christian parents, are trained up in the principles of Christian life and work. A vague idea seems to prevail, that children and tender youth cannot be Christians-that, because they have not the mature judgment and sober ways of adults, they have no place in the church of their Redeemer, and cannot consistently engage in Christian work! Is it strange that, while such impressions and usages prevail, our churches should be small and weak? With such training, or rather lack of training, we shall ever have but few thorough, skillful leaders in the cause of Christ. While most of the natural increase of our churches is thus left to grow up in sympathy with the world and to be educated in the cause of the devil, instead of being early identified with that of the Saviour, and growing into more of interest and larger views in reference to it, as age advances and their powers unfold, we must continue to be weak, and to depend largely on foreign aid. In this course, we are certainly untrue to ourselves and unfaithful to the sacred trusts committed Why should we permit our dear children and youth to be captured by the enemy, and so incur the fearful risk of losing them, or be compelled to extraordinary effort to rescue them from his clutches? Is it not easier to guard them while in our possession? Why wait until their habits are formed and character settled in sin before we expect them to become Christians, and then depend on the miracle of their conversion, when we know that so few are even then moved to love and serve Christ? Is it not easier to train the tender plant than to warp the giant strongly set, and remodel them? Besides, those who are converted to Christ in after life, are young in his service, when they should be mature; inexperienced, when they should be teachers and skillful leaders. This is one reason why we have so few efficient workers in our churches. Who can compute our loss in this respect? It is time that our churches adopted a better policy with regard to their young. We need to be more "home-missionary" than we have been. The children of Christian parents should early have their place in the church and service of their Redeemer.

MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND. An Appeal.

On the last page of the Fifth Annual Report, now being circulated, the following foot-note will be found:

"Note.-Since the writing of the Report, a number of new applicants for aid have come to the notice of the Executive Committee. We need additional help from our friends, and especially ask the co-operation of the thirteen hundred churches which sent US NO COLLECTIONS LAST YEAR!"

It may appear strange that after last year more than twice the amount given the year previous, there should be more need for contributions to this cause now than has been the case at any previous time. The matter is satisfactorily explained thus: first, the large increase to the treasury last year was mainly to the permanent fund, from which the interest alone is available for current expenses. Second, a portion of the ordinary receipts of last year were used to meet the liabilities of the year

oak? to make the vigorous growth of previous, when the applications for aid the twig aid us in developing a beautiful exceeded by twenty-six per cent, the tree, than to change it after it has grown annual receipts. Third, the further inup a crooked, unsightly thing? And crease in the number of applications are not children and youth more sus- since the late meeting of the General ceptible and pliable than those in man- Assembly at New York. In addition hood? Is it not much easier to train to the small sum now in the treasury, them into Christian life and work, than there will be also needed two thousand to take those whose habits are formed five hundred dollars (\$2500) to meet and the currents of whose life are the liabilities of September; and should there be more new applications made to the Committee at their September meeting, the sum needed will be proportionally greater than the amount just named.

> We earnestly ask immediate contributions.

> Send to WM. E. TENBROOK, Esq., Treasurer, or to Rev. Charles Brown, Secretary, 1334 Chestnut Street, Phila.,

BOARD OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Our readers will be interested in the following brief compend of the workings of the Board of Domestic Missions of . the "Other Branch" of the Presbyterian Church, soon we trust to be one with us in happy labor for Christ and his cause.

The past year was one of adversity and prosperity-of contraction and expansion—but with the blessing of God, it has been closed under circumstances which call for special thanksgiving and praise.

Under the administration of the Corresponding Secretary pro tem., (Dr. Musgrave,) the first measures adopted were to borrow a sufficient sum to pay the missionaries who had reported, and who had been kept waiting for the having received for the Relief Fund the amounts due them for a considerable time; and to publish earnest appeals to the churches to replenish the treasury. The former measure gave immediate relief to the missionaries, and the latter were in due time responded to liberally by the churches. Meanwhile, in order certainly to restore the Board to a solvent condition, it continued the reduction of salaries twenty-five per cent., which had been commenced when the treasury was found to be exhausted in July.

The measures adopted, with the bless-

than four months the Board was extri-making a total admission of 4,722. cated from its pecuniary difficulties; the missionaries fully paid as far as reported; all the borrowed money returned; the salaries of the missionaries restored to what they were prior to their reduction; and the Board enabled safely to extend its operations.

Operations of the Year--Of Missions---Statistical Details.

The whole number of missionaries in commission last year was 546. They were located in the following States and Territories, viz :-

1 in Arizona.

10 in California.

1 in Colorado,

2 in District of Columbia,

1 in Florida.

78 in Illinois,

35 in Indiana,

64 in Iowa,

19 in Kansas,

13 in Kentucky,

2 in Louisiana,

9 in Maryland,

1 in Massachusetts,

5 in Michigan,

31 in Minnesota,

1 in Mississippi,

40 in Missouri.

6 in Nebraska,

17 in New Jersey,

1 in New Mexico,

28 in New York,

8 in North Carolina,

45 in Ohio,

5 in Oregon,

66 in Pennsylvania,

3 in South Carolina,

7 in Tennessee,

2 in Virginia,

1 in Washington Territory,

13 in West Virginia,

31 in Wisconsin.

The number of churches and missionary stations wholly or in part supplied, (as far as reported,) by our missionaries is 824.

The number of newly organized churches is 60.

ing of God, proved successful. In less nation is 2,792, and on certificate, 1,930;

The number in communion with churches connected with the Board is 26,078.

The number of Sabbath-schools is 450; of teachers 3,866; and of scholars 30,245.

The number of baptisms is 2,683.

Of the 546 missionaries who have been in commission during the year, 139 have sent in no special report for the Assembly, more than one-fourth of the whole number; consequently we must increase all the returns onefourth to make them correct.

Appropriations.

The appropriations made to the missionaries, from March 1, 1868, to March 1, 1869, were \$113,749.00.

As the missionary appointments are made, with very few exceptions, for twelve months, and are scattered over the whole year, of course a large number of the appropriations made during the year have not yet fully matured, but will be falling due as the present year advances.

Receipts and Payments.

The total amount of receipts from all sources, from March 1, 1868, to March 1, 1869, was \$157,222.23, to which add balance on hand March 1, 1868, \$19,-443.99; making the available resources of the Board during the year \$176,-666.22.

The payments during the year were \$115,818.09; leaving a balance in the Treasury on March 1, 1869, of \$60,-848.13. The amount due the missionaries at the same date was \$12,500.00, leaving an unexpended balance of \$48,-348.13.

This balance is comparatively large, and without explanation may readily mislead the Presbyteries and the patrons of the Board. Indeed we have reason to fear that, notwithstanding our repeated explanations of this matter, some of our friends may receive a wrong impression, and may withhold or diminish their contributions on the supposition The number of admissions on exami- that the Board cannot be in need of

pecuniary assistance, because the bal- hath said, "Whosoever shall give to ance reported is so large. We will drink unto one of these little ones a therefore again state, what we have re- cup of cold water only, in the name of a peatedly stated in our previous reports, disciple, verily, I say unto you, he shall that the amount on hand at the period in no wise lose his reward;" and who of the year when our balance is reported has declared that in the day of judgment is always larger than at any other time. He will say to the righteous, "Inas-From the month of March, the receipts much as ye have done it unto one of the begin to fall off, and during the latter least of these, my brethren, ye have part of the spring, the entire summer done it unto me," will graciously reand the early part of the fall, the re- compense them for their work of labor ceipts are comparatively small; so that and love. It may afford them a present unless our balance at the commence- partial reward to know that the clothment of the fiscal year is large, it would ing furnished by them has prevented be impracticable to carry on the opera- much suffering, and encouraged and tions of the Board during the year. For stimulated many of God's servants amid example: although the balance on hand their self-denials and toils. From the on March 1, 1868, was more than \$19,- reports of the missionaries received at 000.00, by the 15th of July ensuing, the the office, we know that the gifts of the Treasury was entirely exhausted; and ladies are highly appreciated by them, before the treasury was replenished by and that they are often at a loss for the annual contributions of the churches language to express their gratitude. in the fall, the indebtedness of the Board beyond its ability to pay, amounted to more than \$15,000.00. Moreover, a very large portion of the reported balance was received during the last two or three months of the fiscal year; and although there was not sufficient time to expend a great deal of it, yet large liabilities have been created on account of its possession, which, as they mature, will rapidly diminish it. Indeed, as many more new appointments must be made, it is highly probable that the Treasury will be nearly if not quite exhausted before the first of next November.

Clothing.

One hundred and thirty-seven boxes, barrels, and packages containing clothing valued at \$24,123.85, were received and distributed among the missionaries during the year; and nineteen boxes, barrels and packages of which no valuation was reported—the value of the whole being probably \$27,500.00.

The Ladies who have furnished these valuable missionary boxes, deserve, and they will please accept, the warmest thanks of the Board. They have cost the French Catholics! them in their preparation, much time, labour, and expense. Doubtless He who the missionary Toy, almost all the

MADAGASCAR.

The work of grace in Madagascar still goes on. No such growth-no such rapid extension of the church—no such earnest grasp of the gospel has been seen in any nation since the days of the Apostles, says the organ of the London Missionary Society. And it is with adoring wonder and gratitude that the missionaries "stand still and see the salvation of God."

Influence of the Baptism of the Queen.

It has been already announced that the Queen had been baptized, and touching details given of the origin and growth of her convictions; and it has been observed with special pleasure that she was received into the faith by her native pastors, and in accordance with the rules prevalent in the native church. All that has since been written on the matter more than confirms the impressions conveyed by these gratifying tidings. The Queen has learned the catechism like her people! Like her people, she has definitely professed the Protestant faith, and declines to worship with

"Since the Queen was baptized, says

under weekly instruction. Among these are, the chief of the idol keepers, the late Queen's astrologer, several of the present Queen's household, the head of the civilians and other members of the government, many of whom are getting quite old men. This great influx of those who were a short time ago idolaters, and some of them fierce persecutors of Christianity is not without its risk. We are all conscious of the peculiar dangers to which it is exposed, but we can do nothing more than pursue an open and straightforward course, faithfully doing our duty, by instilling right principles, directing and guiding as far as possible the course of events, and committing ourselves and our work into the hands of Him who has the hearts of all men under His control."

Growth of Numbers.

Last year twenty thousand persons joined the Christian congregations. The missionaries expect the same addition, if not a larger one, during the present year. Everywhere, therefore, church building is most active, and the Mission press has its hands more than full.

"A very clear indication of the rapid increase in our congregations," says the Rev. W. E. Cousins, "is the fact that one hundred congregations are looking to us for help to build either new or larger chapels. We have only been able to grant a small sum to each congregation, but we think the directors our disposal, so that we may make a second donation to each congregation six months hence, when the doors and windows will have to be bought. About one third of the chapels to be built will afford accomodation for from eight hundred to twelve hundred hearers each."

Instruction of Native Pastors.

Says Mr. Toy, "Mr. Cousins and myself commenced our new duties on Wednesday. We have nearly forty students to begin with, exclusive of some of the been thin, I hear.

higher officers are coming forward as pastors who wish to attend as often as candidates for baptism. I have now at possible. I do trust that we shall be Ambohipotsy more than a hundred able to do our work successfully, and that God will prosper this undertaking and make it the means of advancing His glory. At present the young men are very zealous, and things look most encouraging, but whether they will have the diligence and perseverance necessary to continue their studies when the novelty of the thing has worn away, may be open to doubt. With all our other work pressing upon us, it will be no inconsiderable tax upon our energies and strength."

> On this subject Mr. Cousins writes:-"Soon after the reports left, the missionaries met to consider what could be done to instruct young men suited for the ministry; and in spite of many difficulties, we decided to make a trial for six months. Mr. Toy and I were asked to teach the students, and we have this week made a beginning. Those we have admitted to the classes were first recommenned by their respective churches, and then accepted by the committee after a simple written examination. We have thirty-four to begin with, besides any pastors who may like to attend, which they will have the privilege of doing when they like. It remains to be seen how many of these thirty-four will remain at the end of six months. Probably many will drop off, but we hope we shall get a dozen or more as a nucleus. Once let the institution get established and appreciated, and there will not be much difficulty."

A correspondent of the English Indewill be willing to put a further sum at pendent, after describing the baptism of the Queen, mentions the failure of an attempt by the Romish priest to get her to countenance their worship.

Rome is Rebuffed.

Since the opening of the Memorial Church at Ambohipotsy, and the attendance of the court at its consecration, the French have been constantly urging the Queen to be present at a service in their Roman Catholic chapel, at Imahamasina, where the attendance has

Report says, that to accomplish their object many arguments have been plied, are said to be considerably reduced and among others "that the treaty re- (they were never very large) in consecently concluded requires that they be treated as the most favored nation." On the other hand the court made many stand against Popery: thus have they excuses, the whole of which clearly shown in their own way a desire to do indicated their reluctance to comply visit the building was obtained, and on nas, pictures, incense, music, lost its In order to give eclat to the occasion, the Queen to sanction by her presence a throne was prepared and richly deco- a formula inconsistent with the sacred rated for the use of the sovereign. The book. proverbial; the altar, &c., sharing of while thus feeling for this rule of life, and exhibiting many artificial lights. veyed the idea of a travelling theatre, and save the Queen and the rulers of Moreover, music was to do her part, and Madagascar? a laudatory National Anthem had been got up for the occasion; in short, everything which ingenuity could accomplish likely to attract and please the monarch was done.

At about eight o'clock the court left the palace, escorted by guards as usual, preceded by the Queen's band. At the building the Queen was received by the French special commissioner and the officiating priests. Her Majesty, having advanced half way up the building, stood still, and the Prime Minister then presented "Hasina" on behalf of the people. (This payment of "Hasina," or a dollar of allegiance, still obtains among the people on the commencement or completion of any building of importance.) This done the Queen turned to leave, when the special commissioner took hold of her arm, urging her to occupy the seat prepared. The Prime Minister said, "The Queen came to take Hasina because the house is hers." The commissioner replied, "I see there is no love, only hatred to France." The minister rejoined, "There is nothing in the treaty to compel the Queen to pray with you;" and the court left, their stay in the chapel scarcely exceeding twelve minutes.

The Roman Catholic congregations quence of this visit of the court.

Thus have the court made a decided what is Scriptural and right; the whole with the request. At last consent to paraphernalia of priest, altars, madon-Thursday, March 25th, the court went. spell. These signally failed to prompt At present the motto of the chapel itself was decked out with that court seems to be, "The Bible, the artistic skill for which the French are Bible alone shall be our religion;" and course very largely in the decorations, and trying to make the Bible their Magna Charta, what Christian's heart Outside long hangings and festoons con- will withhold the prayer, God bless

TEACHERS' PLEDGES.

Mr. William H. Sutton, Superintendent of Howard Mission Sunday-school, New York City, has prepared a form of pledge, which is taken by every candidate for the office of teacher in the Mission. The pledge is printed on a flexible card, and is as follows:

1. Believing that the Scriptures mean what they say, in John 3: 16 and 36; and that those who die believing in the Lord Jesus Christ are eternally saved, and those who believe NOT are eternally LOST, the wrath of God ABIDING ON them, I will endeavor, to the best of my ability, to lead my scholars to believe in Jesus NOW.

2. I promise to be in my place before my class regularly and punctually every session, and if, at any time, I am unable to keep this promise, I will either be represented by a substitute or inform the Superintendent of such intended absence.

3. In order to secure the co-operation of my fellow laborers, assist them, and better qualify myself for my work of Teaching, I will attend the Weekly TEACHERS' MEETING, even if it sometimes cost me a sacrifice to do it.

4. Knowing that to succeed in winning souls to Christ we must have the help of the Holy Spirit, and that God gives to those who ask him and helps those who try to help themselves: I will always preface my work in the class with prayer and preparation, and supplement it with prayer and patience.

N. B.—You are requested carefully and prayerfully to consider the above pledges, and if you can conscientiously subscribe to them, please sign two copies, returning one to me and keeping the other for your own reference, when we shall most cordially welcome you among us as a worker for Jesus.

PRESBYTERIAN STATISTICS.

For the year ending May, 1869, as reported to the General Assemblies:-

The Old School.	
Synods	27
Presbyteries	143
Licentiates	187
Candidates	376
Ministers	2,381
Churches	2,740
Licensures	85
Ordinations	93
Installations	192
Members added on examination	15.189
Members added on certificate	11,982
Total number of communicants	258,903
Adults baptized	4,236
Infants baptized	11,333
Number of persons in Sabbath-schools.	234,089
Amount contributed for Congregation-	
al purposes	\$3,180,102
Amount contributed for the Boards	\$868,573
Amount contributed for Disabled Min-	
isters	\$37,196
Amount contributed for miscellaneous	
purposes	\$397.392
Amount contributed for freedmen	\$27.310
Contingent fund	\$15,708
Whole amount contributed	\$4,526,281
W C-1I	

New School.

A glance at our own minutes shows that the returns for this year are highly favorable:

10,010,010	
Synods	24
Presbyteries	113
Ministers	1,848
Licentiates	116
Candidates	103
Churches	1,631
Added on profession	9,707
Added on certificate	8,064
Communicants	172,560
Adults baptized	3,509
Infants baptized	4,789
_	

Sunday-school membership	192,264
Funds-To General Assembly	\$12,998
To Home Missions	\$142.377
To Foreign Missions	\$116,364
To Education	\$29,492
To Publication	\$14.491
To Church Erection	\$43,013
To Ministerial Relief	\$18,966
To Freedmen	\$12.594
To Congregational Purposes	\$2.866,940
To Miscellaneous Purposes	\$363,298
Total contributed \$3,6	20,533 43

Total contributed\$3,62	0,553 43
Totals of the Two.	
Ministers	4,199
Licentiates	
Churches	4.371
Communicants	431,463
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It will not be far from the truth to put the total of the two bodies at four thousand ministers, four thousand churches, and four hundred thousand communicants. Let all be filled with zeal for God and how great the work they may do!

WORK FOR ALL.

Rev. Dr. Canfield, of Syracuse, says of this little volume by Dr. Bush:—

"I have just completed the reading of 'Work for All.' I like it exceedingly. In matter, style and tone, it is admirably fitted to lead laymen and ministers, all classes of Christians, to the usefulness and blessedness of working for Christ. I should be glad to have it perused earnestly and prayerfully by every member of my church, and will do what I can to give it a wide circulation here. I have spoken of it to several individuals, also to those assembled at our prayer-meetings, and commended it from the desk."

OF OUR "TRUE STORY LIBRARY," by Mrs. Julia McNair Wright, the Evangelical Repository says:-

"We have here encased in a beautiful box twelve little books. Each book contains sixty-four pages and two pictures. They are designed for young children, and from the examination we have given them, are such books as may with safety and profit be put into the hands of children. The fact that it is a *true* story library certainly ought to commend it to the Christian public, for we have far too many juvenile libraries of an opposite character."

HOME MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS,

Made in July, 1869.

Rev. P. J. Abbott, Chazy, New York.
B. Russell, Andover, New York.
J. M. Ballou, Charence, New York.

Rev. M. S. Dudley, Otego, New York.

"S. Hutchins, Salem. Pa.

"Wm Hutton, Greenwich Street. Phila, Pa.

DONATIONS

Received by the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions in July, 1869.

NEW YORK.

DELAWARE.

NEW YORK.		DELAWARE.		
Almond Presch, additional,	\$9 40	Lincoln Pres ch,	\$5 50	
Angelica Pres ch,	50 00	Middletown Forest Pres ch, Mon Con Co	1, 11 10	
Addison Pres ch.	53 00		A10 CO	
Brooklyn South Pres ch, Mon Con Coll,	52 42		\$ 16 60	
Colden Pres ch,	10 00			
Centreville Pres ch,	5 43		\$10 00	
Circleville Pres ch,	11 25	New Providence Presch.	12 67	
Dundee Pres ch,	10 00			
Delhi 2d Pres ch,	74 00		\$22 67	
Geneseo 1st Pres ch,	36 17			
Geneva Pres ch, Sabbath-school,	40 00			
Irvington Presch,	685 00	Dayton Mission Pres ch, 13 06 of which		
New York Fourth Avenue Pres ch, Mrs		from Sabbath-school,	\$43 06	
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New York West Pres ch, additional,	50 00		10 00	
New Hartford Pres ch,	60 69		56 00	
New Rochelle Pres ch,	50 25		16 00	
New York, an unknown friend,	1 00		25 00	
Portville Pres ch.	31 00		# 200 FO	
Pleasant Valley Pres ch,	30 00		\$283 5 0	
Rochester Brick Pres ch, Mrs H N Alden,	62 50	INDIANA.		
Salt Point Pres ch,	18 17		\$7 10	
Sand Lake Pres ch,	25 00	Ft Wayne Pres ch,	83 50	
Seneca Castle Pres ch, Ladies Home Mis-		Horeb Pres ch,	2 00	
sionary Society, 5 50 of which from	40 00	Indianapolis 2d Pres ch, additional,	46 79	
Miss C Hart,		La Frairie Fles Cii,	7 00	
Troy 1st Pres ch, additional,	25 00 6 65	historison i resem,	25 00	
Verona 2d ch Sabbath-school,	0 00	rumamvine ries en,	8 10	
Waverly Pres ch, 10 of which from Mrs	35 00	Rising Sun Pres ch,	11 00	
Sarah Sayre,		Thornton Tres ch, to or which from Eas	20.00	
Williamson Pres ch, Legacies.—Bequest of Mrs Laura Swezey,	10 00	bath-school,	30 00	
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Schoolcraft Pres ch,	\$8 61	Received for the Freedmen.		
White Lake Pres ch, Ypsilanti Pres ch,	15 70 177 75	NEW YORK.		
,	A240.02	Brooklyn Lafayette Ave Pres ch, in part	\$384	65
WISCONSIN.	\$643 92	Chester Pres ch,	50	00
		Ripley, John Cochran,	5	00
Lodi Pres ch, 6 81 of which from Sabbath school.	h- \$10 75		\$439	65
Milwaukee 1st Pres ch,	89 25	NEW JERSEY.	•	
Oconto Pres ch,	15 00	Belvidere 2d Pres ch,	\$35	36
	\$115 00	Bergen 1st Pres ch,	63	
MINNESOTA.	\$119.00	Newark High Street Pres ch,	81	00
	#0 oo		\$179	30
Garden City Pres ch, Minnereka Pres ch,	\$3 00 3 25	PENNSYLVANIA.		
Moscow Pres ch,	2 20	Honesdale Pres ch,	\$101	00
Sumner Pres ch.	2 95	Bequest of Miss Lucy E Baldwin, dec'd Great Bend, per Rev D M Rankin,		00
Woodbury Pres.ch,	2 10	Grow Bond, por 100, D in mankin,		
	\$13 50	OHIO.	\$106	00
IOWA.	•		A=	00
Marjetta Pres ch.	\$7 60	Oberlin, W L Copeland,	\$ 5	UU
Unionville Pres ch, West Grove Pres ch,	6 05	WISCONSIN.		
West Grove Fres cn,	3 15	Lodi 1st Pres ch Sabbath-school,	\$4	38
	\$16 80	VIRGINIA.		
MISSOURI.				
Canton Pres ch,	\$8 00	Harrisonburgh Freedmen's School, Waynesboro' Freedmen's School,	\$32 60	
Clinton Pres ch, Osceola Pres ch.	4 00	Woodstock Freedmen's School,	20	
Vineland Pres ch.	34 45 5 00			_
Webster Groves Pres ch,	60 40		\$112	53
	A 221 0x	English Normal School Fund,	\$542	75
KANSAS.	\$111 85	Total amount received.	\$ 1389	75
Holton Pres ch.	\$9 05			
,	\$3.00	EDW. A. LAMBERT, Treasurer	•	
Total amount received,	\$6794 44	30 Vesey Street, New Y		
		P. O. Box	386 3 .	

RECEIPTS OF CHURCH ERECTION FUND For the Month of July, 1869

For ti	ie Mont	th of July, 1869.	
NEW YORK.		INDIANA.	
Rochester Brick Pres ch.	\$41 4		\$4 00
Mendham 1st Pres ch, additional.	36 2		3 00
Mercer Street Pres ch. additional,	15 0)	
Williamsburg 1st Pres ch. Sabbath-school		** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	\$7 00
Missionary Association, special	100 0		A
Spring Street Pres ch, special, Irvington Pres ch,	108 0		\$342 27
Rochester Central Pres ch,	255 20 99 00		8 70 6 73
Utica 1st Pres ch. special,	5 0		0 75
Gowanda Pres ch, 10 for freedmen.	18 0		\$357 72
Stephentown Pres ch.	10.0	MICHIGAN.	φοσ. 1-
Dry Dock Missionary Association, speci	al, 50 0	Wyandotte Pres ch,	\$19 25
Auburn 2d Pres ch,	100 0		13 00
Utica 1st Pres ch,	110 73	3	4
Brooklyn Lafayette Avenue Pres ch, i			\$32 25
par t,	305 2	10 11 /1.	
	\$1253 8	Cedar Rapids Pres ch,	\$56 5 5
NEW JERSEY.	\$1200 G	Clarence Pres ch,	8 00
Paterson 2d Pres ch,	\$16 0		died FF
Orange. G W Snow, 2d Pres ch.	10) 0	1	\$64 55
Succasunna Pres ch,	40 5		A10 00
Hanover 2d Pres ch, special	25 50) -/	\$13 00
		- WISCONSIN.	
PENNSYLVANIA.	\$182 0	Pardeeville,	\$5 00
		MINNESOTA.	
Philadelphia Broad Street Presch, New Castle 2d Presch,	\$39 3	Sauk Centre.	\$3 75
Reeseville Pres ch,	50 00		
reesevine ries cii,	10 2		A100 00
	\$99 5	- HR Hatch, B Hon TP Handy, Cleveland, Ohio,	\$100 00
OHIO.	\$03 U	M Bowler, Cleveland, Ohio,	100 00 5 00
Willoughby Pres ch,	\$3 00	Mrs Mary B Stute, Willoughby,	5 00
Mt Gilead Pres ch,	4 5	Mrs F A Addy, Franklin.	12 00
Delhi Pres ch,	6 00	Rev C M Putnam	25 00
	A20 0		
	\$13 6		\$247 00

INTEREST ON LOANS. M S Turrill. S T Cleveland, Leland Bros,	\$70 00 105 00 630 00	Michigan, Iowa. California, Wisconsin.	\$32 25 64 55 13 00 5 00
RECAPITULATION.	\$805 00 \$1253 81	Minnesota, Individual Donations, Interest on Loans,	3 75 247 00 805 00
New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana,	182 00 99 58 13 63 7 00	Total, JOHN P. CROSE	\$3084 29 BY, Treasurer, 25 Pine Street.
Illinois,	357 72	New York, August 6th, 1869	

MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND,

Donations Received during May, June, and July, 1869.

Dominions Accested to	uring	may, oune, and odly, 1809.	
Troy, Ind, Pres ch,	\$4 00	Malden, N Y. Pres ch,	\$14 00
Panama, N Y. Pres ch,	3 00	Lyons, N Y, Pres ch,	13 73
Anderson, Ind. Pres ch.	11 55	Pine Plains. N Y, Pres ch.	2 00
Rose, NY, Pres ch,	6 00	Buffalo, N Y. Westminster Pres ch,	50 00
Fentonville, Mich, Pres ch,	10 50	Bowling Green, Ky, Thos C Calvert,	2 50
Chatfield, Minn, Pres ch.	5 00	Bay City, Mich, Pres ch,	3 00
Kenderton, Philadelphia, Pa, Pres ch,	9 00	Granville, Ohio, Pres ch.	19 40
Southwark. Philadelphia, Pa, 1st Pres ch.		Beverly, N J, Pres ch,	12 34
Northumberland, Pa. Pres ch,	5 00	Cincinnati, Ohio, 1st German Pres ch,	5 50
New Rochelle, N Y, Pres ch,	32 00	Lane Seminary, Ohio, Pres cli,	29 68
Knoxville, Ill, Presch,	10 00	Ohio, Berea ch, collection at Hamilton	
Dresden, Ohio, Pres ch,	11 50	Presbytery,	11 00
Birmingham, Pa, Pres ch,	10 00	Erie, Pa, 1st Pres ch,	60 00
Middleport, Ohio, 1st Pres ch,	17 50	Waterford, Pa, Presch,	9 13
Greenwood, Mich, Pres ch,	1 00	Phelps, N Y, 1st Pres ch,	12 62
Tekonsha, Mich, Pres ch,	5 50	Plattsburgh, N Y, 1st Pres ch,	15 00
Cherry Tree, Pa, Pres ch,	7 10	Rockaway, N J. Pres ch.	43 00
Indianapolis, Ind. Pres ch.	15 00	Marquette, Mich, Pres ch,	50 00
Englewood, Ind, Pres ch,	121 47	Philadelphia. Pa, "Fides," per S C R, Esq.	27 78
Bloomfield, N J, Pres ch,	70 57	Buffalo, N Y, North Pres ch,	72 87
Lima, N Y, Mary C Allen,	20 00	Port Jervis, N Y, Pres ch,	24 00
Manchester, N Y, Pres ch,	15 00	Masonville, N Y, Pres ch,	4 00
Genoa, N Y, 1st Congl ch,	5 00	Madison. N J, 1st Pres ch,	40 00
Montrose, Pa. Pres ch,	20 50	Holton, Kansas. Pres ch,	2 00
Watertown, N Y. Pres ch,	15 94	Orange, N J. 2d Pres ch,	90 74
Cherry Valley, N Y, Pres ch,	20 (10	Williamsport, Pa, 2d Pres ch,	40 00
Detroit, Mich, 1st Pres ch,	48 14	Monticello, Wis. Pres ch,	12 00
St Paul, Minn, "House of Hope,"	$20 \ 00$	Union Corners, NY, Pres ch,	5 00
St Catharine's, C W, Pres ch,	10 00	Evansville, Ind, Walnut Street Presch,	70 55
Webster Grove, Mo, Pres ch,	11 00	Neshaminy, Pa, Pres ch,	14 35
North Walton, NY, Rev S N Robinson,	5 00	Erie. Mich, Pres ch,	5 00
Escanaba, Mich, Presch,	5 00	Brockport, N Y, Pres ch,	43 70
Columbus, Wis, Pres ch,	5 00	Brownsville, N Y, Pres ch	7 00
Pine Grove. Pa. Pres ch,	4 75	Dexter, N Y, Pres ch,	5 00
Red Wing, Minn, Pres ch,	10 00		11055 00
New Hartford, N.Y. Pres ch,	11 50	3	\$1957 69
Hanging Rock, Ohio, Pres ch,	7 12	REV. CHARLES BROWN, Secrete	ary
Irvington, N Y, Pres ch,	65 16	WM. E. TENBROOK, Trea	
New York City, Madison Square Pres ch,			
Stamford, Conn, M J B,	100 00	1334 Chestnut St.,	riiid.

EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Receipts for July, 1869.

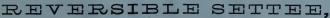
NEW YORK.		OHIO.		
Rochester Central Pres ch,	\$461 38	Yellow Springs 1st Pres ch,	\$5 05	
Brooklyn South Pres ch,	175 00	INDIANA.		
Watertown Pres ch,	75 00	Michigan City ch,	\$34 00	
Watertown Stone Street 1st Pres ch,	36 28	· ,	\$3.4 OO	
Danville Pres ch,	15 40	ILLINOIS.		
Gorham Pres ch,_	15 20	Alton 1st Pres ch,	\$53 10	
Washingtonville Pres ch,	13 50	WISCONSIN.		
Union Corners Presch,	5 00	Pioneer Pres ch, Marinett,	\$10 00	
F H Bartholomew, N Y,	250 00		W10 00	
	\$1046 76	MISSOURI.		
	\$1040.10	Webster Groves Pres ch,	\$11 00	
NEW JERSEY.				
Mount Clair Pres ch,	\$73 02	Total amount received,	\$1390 71	
PENNSYLVANIA.		E. M. KINGSLEY, Treasur	rer.	
	A			
Williamsport 2d Pres ch,	\$125 00			
Fides, by S C Perkins, Philadelphia,	27 78	New Yor	k City.	
	\$152 78	P. O. Bo	x 3863	
	\$152 18	New York, July 31st, 1869.		
TENNESSEE.				
Rev W H Lyle, Mossy Creek,	\$ 5 00	STEREOTYPED AND PRINTED BY ALFRED	MARTIEN.	

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